

Man dies after wall collapses on him in Grasstree underground coal mine in central Queensland

By Ashleigh Stevenson

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A man has been crushed to death under a wall which collapsed on him in an underground mine in central Queensland.

MAP: Middlemount 4746

Police say the 45-year-old miner was pressure grouting a wall on an underground roadway when part of the wall came away and struck him in the Anglo American Grasstree underground coal mine near Middlemount, north-west of Rockhampton, about 11:00pm (AEST).

He was given medical attention at the scene and brought to the surface where paramedics pronounced him dead.

A Department of Natural Resources and Mines spokesman said the mine was evacuated and Anglo American had suspended all operations at the mine until further notice.

"Two senior mines inspectors and an investigator will be at the mine this morning to begin their investigation," the spokesman said.

"The investigation report will be provided to the coroner who will determine cause of death."

It is the second workplace death in the Grasstree mine this year.

An initial investigation by the Mines Inspectorate found in May, electrician Paul McGuire may have been overcome by inert gas in a restricted area.

Topics: mining-rural, death, middlemount-4746, mackay-4740

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